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STATINTL

Columnists' Fund Expose Sparks Quiz

WASHINGTON

The U.S. Senate's Select Committee on Standards and Conduct, created two years ago to look into the Bobby Baker Case, is preparing to investigate the financial activities of Senator Thomas Dodd, Connecticut Democrat. This comes as a direct result of columns by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson exposing Dodd's fund-raising affairs and after the *Washington Post* reported alleged claims by the Senator that \$100,000 received from testimonial dinners were tax-free "gifts."

In addition, the Internal Revenue Service is seeking to find out whether Dodd raised money ostensibly for campaign purposes and then used it for personal expenses and failed to report it.

As for the Senate investigation, no date has been set, and the names of those called as witnesses will not be announced in advance. The inquiry is expected to center on Dodd's relationship with Julius Klein, a former Chicago newspaper executive who is a registered lobbyist representing West German interests.

Committee Has Files

Dodd has turned over all his files to the Senate Committee, and has asked the FBI to investigate alleged rifling of his office files.

Senator Wayne Morse (D.-Ore.) asked for open hearing and was backed by Senator Steven Young (D.-Ohio) and Senator Paul Fannin (R.-Ariz.).

Morse said the main point was not how the files were obtained but whether claims by the columnists were true. "Freedom of the press does not mean a license to lie," he told the Senate. "Journalistic muck-raking is never justified except on the basis of truth."

Morse added: "What is the truth and what is the falsehood involved? Has a muck-raking job been done by taking statements and material out of context, in the sense that it changes truth into falsehood? We are entitled to know that." He maintained that Dodd, who requested the probe himself, was entitled to procedural protection of his rights and should not be subjected to any "kangaroo court" resulting in an inadequate and perhaps unfair report.

All Connecticut campaign reports, including Dodd's, were destroyed in February, according to statute and custom, following months of retention.

The Senator's former personal secretary, Marjorie Carpenter, was quoted by the *New Haven Journal-Courier* as saying she and others on his staff helped Pearson and Anderson to get information from the Senator's private files.

Pearson claimed in his May 4 column that Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty raised \$690,000 at five testimonial dinners and said "the big question is: what has Sam done with the money?"